27th January 1931]

Number of political prisoners convicted up to 31st October 1930.

* 58 Q.—Mr. A. HARISCHANDRUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of political prisoners (men and women) convicted for offences other than acts of violence to life or property in the Madras Presidency up to 31st October 1930;

(b) the number of political prisoners sentenced for acts of violence in Madras Presidency up to 31st October 1930;

(c) the number of political prisoners that apologised and were set free in the Madras Presidency up to 31st October 1930;

(d) whether the Government have received complaints or representations that political prisoners are not properly treated in jails particularly in the matter of diet; and

(e) if so, what steps have the Government taken to remedy this evil?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) Two hundred and ninety from jails and borstal schools.

(d) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (e) and (f) of question No. 57.

Mr. A. HARISCHANDRUDU:—"With regard to clauses (a) and (b) of the question, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Diet to 'C' class prisoners in Jails.

* 59 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of political prisoners of the 'C' class in the Presidency who are or were suffering from dysentery, the average duration of their suffering; and

(b) whether any of the political prisoners singly or jointly made any representations to the authorities concerned regarding the supply of butter-milk; if the answer is in the affirmative, what are the said representations and by whom they were made and what action has been taken on the same?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Yes. As an experimental measure, 'C' class prisoners in the Alipuram Jail are supplied with butter-milk in lieu of a portion of the dholl allowed to them. The question of extending this concession to 'C' class prisoners in other jails is under examination.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know what the answer is to the first part of clause (b) of the question, as to whether any representations were made to the Government and if so by whom?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes. Representations have been made by some prisoners in the Rajahmundry jail and by some prisoners in the Alipuram jail."